

REVISED - 2/6/62

ARMSTRONG CIRCLE THEATRE

#117

"TEEN AGE FAN CLUBS"  
(UNTITLED)

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WRITER: ALVIN BORETZ

DIRECTOR: PAUL BOGART

PRODUCER: ROBERT COSTELLO

EDITOR: BARBARA SCHULTZ

C A S T

BEN CLAYTON

ADA O'DOHERTY

DAVE TAYLOR

WILLIE CARLISLE

ELLEN HARPER

MRS. HARPER

LARRY

HARRIS

CARRIE

JENNIFER

NINA

RITA

STEVE

RONIS

MILLER'S VOICE

UNDER FIVE

MARTHA

KENNY

EXTRAS

PHOTOGRAPHER

DISC JOCKEY

ENGINEER

TEEN-AGERS



"TEEN AGE FAN CLUBS"FADE UP

(CU PORTABLE PHONOGRAPHS SPINNING  
A RECORD. WILLIE'S VOICE IS SING-  
ING A BALLAD. PULL BACK ENOUGH  
TO SHOW ELLEN AND SOME GIRL FRIENDS  
LYING ON THE FLOOR AND BED NEXT TO  
THE PLAYER .. LOST IN DREAMLAND)

COCHRAN:

Good evening everyone..this is  
Ron Cochran. Tonight .. the  
story of a battle for fifty  
million dollars. The amount  
of money spent by American  
teenagers on single phonograph  
records. In the mad scramble  
for this fortune there are still  
billions more in the "extras"  
bought each year by our youth.  
The competition for this seem-  
ingly inexhaustible supply of  
cash is both fierce and un-  
relenting. A jungle warfare  
that challenges the imagination  
..ranging from clever schemes to  
outright bribery. One of its

COCHRAN: (Cont'd)

most cynical techniques is the  
use it makes of a unique American  
institution. The teen age fan  
club. Used here for only one  
reason. To exploit ... its un-  
suspecting victims.

DISSOLVE TO:

(EXT. TEENAGE GIRLS OUTSIDE A STAGE  
DOOR..SURROUNDING A SINGING IDOL  
FOR AUTOGRAPHS)

COCHRAN: (VO)

In just a few moments ..

SUPER 35mm INSTITUTIONAL

FILM

..on the ARMSTRONG CIRCLE  
THEATRE.



FADE IN:

(A TV STUDIO. WILLIE  
IS SINGING. HE IS  
STIFF AND AWKWARD IN  
HIS STYLE BUT HE IS  
HEART AND SOUL IN  
WHAT HE IS DOING ..  
REALLY FEELING IT)

## COCHRAN: (VO)

To reach the golden jackpot  
of a million sale record..  
two elements are needed.

The first is simple.

A singer.

Preferably..a teenager him-  
self. With built in appeal  
to those of his own genera-  
tion. His style can be  
taught. Polished with machine  
like precision.

DISSOLVE TO:

(FILM. STOCK. A  
RECORD HOP..WITH  
TEENAGERS DANCING)

The second element is not  
so simple.

An audience.

The mass of individuals..  
whom the singer must unite  
in a common devotion.

If he is successful in becoming  
a teen age idol.....he may earn  
as much as a million dollars.

SUPER CRAWL

ACT ONEDISSOLVE TO:

(BEN'S APARTMENT. WILLIE IS SING-  
ING. HE IS SEVENTEEN...AND APPEAL-  
ING. BEN CLAYTON IS 35..VIGOROUS  
AND BRIGHT. ADA O'DOHERTY IS IN  
HER LATE TWENTIES. SHE IS NO GLAMOUR  
GIRL BUT SHE HAS AN ATTRACTIVENESS  
WHICH COMES FROM HER WARMTH AND KNOW-  
HOW. ALSO PRESENT IS DAVE..THE AC-  
COMPANIST. BEN IS LISTENING EAGERLY  
WHILE ADA LISTENS IMPASSIVELY. DAVE'S  
EXPRESSION DOESN'T SEEM TO INDICATE  
THAT HE IS TOO HAPPY)

(WILLIE SINGS SEVERAL BARS..THEN  
BEN TURNS TO DAVE)

BEN:

What do you think?

DAVE:

He can't sing.

BEN:

Give me an honest answer.

DAVE:

I just did. He's got no talent  
..for singing anyway.

(BEN MOVES OVER TO ADA)

BEN:

You like him?



ADA:

I'm trying hard.

(SHE LISTENS FOR A FEW MORE BARS  
THEN TURNS TO BEN)

He needs a certain kind of ar-  
rangement. To drown him out.

(BEN TURNS AWAY..IRRITATED...IM-  
PATIENT AND WILLIE CONTINUES TO  
SING UNDER NARRATION)

COCHRAN: (VO)

(CAMERA PANS THE  
PEOPLE)

These .. are the idol  
makers.

Or so they hope.

Ready to begin the long,  
laborious act of creation.  
Ben Clayton..age...thirty-  
five.

Occupation..talent manager.  
Ada O'Doherty...music ar-  
ranger.

Age..difficult to assess.

Dave Taylor...voice coach.

A man long used to the impos-  
sibilities of show business.

Such as the coming attempt to  
make a teen age singing idol  
of Willie Carlisle who..until

a short time ago...was a talented  
mechanic in a South Philadelphia  
garage.

(WILLIE SINGS A FEW MORE BARS..AND  
ENDS THE SONG)

(HE LOOKS AT THEM EXPECTANTLY)

WILLIE:

How was that, Mr. Clayton?

BEN:

Fine, Willie, fine. We're go-  
ing to be all right together.

(ADA AND DAVE ARE IMPASSIVE)

WILLIE:

(TO ADA)

Didn't you like it?

ADA:

I didn't like the arrangement.

DAVE:

Nothing personal, son. But this  
is a hard business. A million  
kids come to New York from all  
over the country trying to break  
into..

BEN:

(INTERRUPTING)

Sure, Dave..we know. Willie, why  
don't you go in and rest..play the  
radio a little. We have to talk  
some business.

WILLIE:

I told you I wanted to sing my own



WILLIE: (Cont'd)

songs, man. I don't dig that number. I don't feel it. My heart wasn't in it.

(BEN HAS THE BEDROOM DOOR OPEN)

BEN:

Don't worry, we're not worried about your voice. You can sing well enough.

(HE GUIDES WILLIE INTO THE NEXT ROOM AND COMES OUT..CLOSING THE DOOR)

WILLIE:

The beat's all wrong. I have to go with my own.

BEN:

Turn on the radio, Willie.

(HE CLOSES THE DOOR)

ADA:

He's a sweet kid. What are you doing?

BEN:

Now you've got it. That's what I wanted to hear. (TO DAVE) Never mind he can't sing. You'll teach him. Besides...we'll make a voice for him in the studio. (TO ADA) Sweet kid...that's the whole thing

BEN: (Cont'd)

about him. His face. You look at him..you like him. How do you think I found him?

ADA:

I was wondering.

BEN:

He's a natural. He comes from South Philadelphia. Same as Fabian, Frankie Avalon, Chubby Checker..Bobby Rydell. They breed them there.

DAVE:

You think it's catching?

ADA:

Sure. Marian Anderson comes from there too.

BEN:

That can't hurt either. Look, I know how it sounds but there's something about that place. Maybe it's in the air..I don't know. But the kids there dig the rock and that's all I'm interested in.

DAVE:

I don't know where you saw him, Ben.....but he's not even good for a Saturday night party.



BEN:

Somebody told me Fabian was discovered on a porch. Well, I pulled into a filling station and there was - Willie. Singing with some kids from the neighborhood and they weren't bad. They've been trying to crack the stations around Philly for singing jobs.

ADA:

Ben, you handle a few good acts but you must be kidding with this one.

DAVE:

I have to go home.

BEN:

Wait a minute. I'm not saying this kid's a talent. But he's got something other kids will buy. He's one of them.

DAVE:

He can't sing.

BEN:

He doesn't have to. We'll give him the right songs...We'll create an image. We'll merchandise him.